

Clay Pigeon Is Modern Marvel

Target Trapshooters Use Is Development of Boys' Shell Skipping.

CHICAGO—Sixty-five years ago Coney Island, New York's famous ocean-front playground, witnessed the first flight of one of the smallest devices man has ever developed to sail through the air.

That was 25 years before the Wright brothers made their first experiment at Kitty Hawk.

Even though this device is more fragile than an egg and is one of the most brittle things that can be made, its principal ingredient is limestone, basic raw material of cement.

Regarded as a kind of airplane wing which attains speeds up to 60 miles an hour, it revolves at the rate of 5,000 revolutions a minute. This speed sets up centrifugal force so great that when it is struck, it frequently flies off in all directions, disintegrating in a cloud of black dust.

This hard-to-believe object is the clay pigeon, the target at which skeet and trap shooters have been popping away with shotguns since 1880.

George Ligowsky, its inventor, got the idea for his saucer-shaped target by watching boys skip shells over the water. Ligowsky called his targets clay pigeons.

Forerunner of all inanimate trap targets, was the glass ball made in various colors and sizes. Most of the balls were merely empty spheres.

Glass Balls a Nuisance.

Buffalo Bill used glass balls in his famous short-range "sharp-shooting" act in the circus, and his cartridges were loaded with shot.

Since glass balls were relatively expensive, they did not like to be shattered with broken glass, inventors began looking for a substitute.

One chap invented a ball made of a material advertised as an excellent fertilizer. Another patented a paper "bird" which consisted of a wire ball to which paper trailers were attached. This was not unlike the modern bird now used in birdminton.

Another idea was a brass saucer filled with powdered charcoal that erupted into a cloud of black dust when a pushbutton that held the powder in place, was shot out. For a few years there was some interest in a "gro" trap which was a propeller-shaped piece of steel that was spun up into the air from a screw.

George Ligowsky of Cincinnati, saw boys skipping sea-shells on the seashore, and in 1880 gave shooters the bird.

Use Molten Pitch.

The modern target, most brittle thing that man can make, is produced of molten pitch mixed with pulverized limestone and poured into water-cooled moulds. Making targets sounds quite simple but great secrecy surrounds the actual preparation and compounding of the raw material and the manufacturing technique as it is practiced by one of the world's largest producers of targets.

In flight, a trap target is a combination gyroscope and airplane wing. The spin which ranges up to 5,000 revolutions per minute for a perfectly thrown target, has a gyroscopic stabilizing effect that keeps it flying in a single direction.

A perfect hit which "smokes" a target, seems to stop it dead in its air tracks, but scientists say that isn't so. Actually they say the target keeps on going in all directions until gravity overcomes the original momentum. As the professors explain it, when shot pellets break a target into thousands of tiny specs, centrifugal forces are released which permit each of the specs of the broken target to move in the direction in which it was headed at the moment the spinning target was broken.

And poor George Ligowsky thought that his clay pigeons sailed through the air with the greatest of ease just because they were like sea-shells!

Red Cross Wants Men

For Service Overseas

WASHINGTON—The American Red Cross appealed for 1,000 men to serve as field workers with the armed forces overseas, urging discharged veterans and persons no longer in essential war industries to apply for the jobs.

"The morale of all American forces still in uniform becomes an increased responsibility now that winning the war is no longer a stimulus," Basil O'Connor, national chairman, said.

The Pacific ocean areas to be occupied offer little in the way of entertainment, he added.

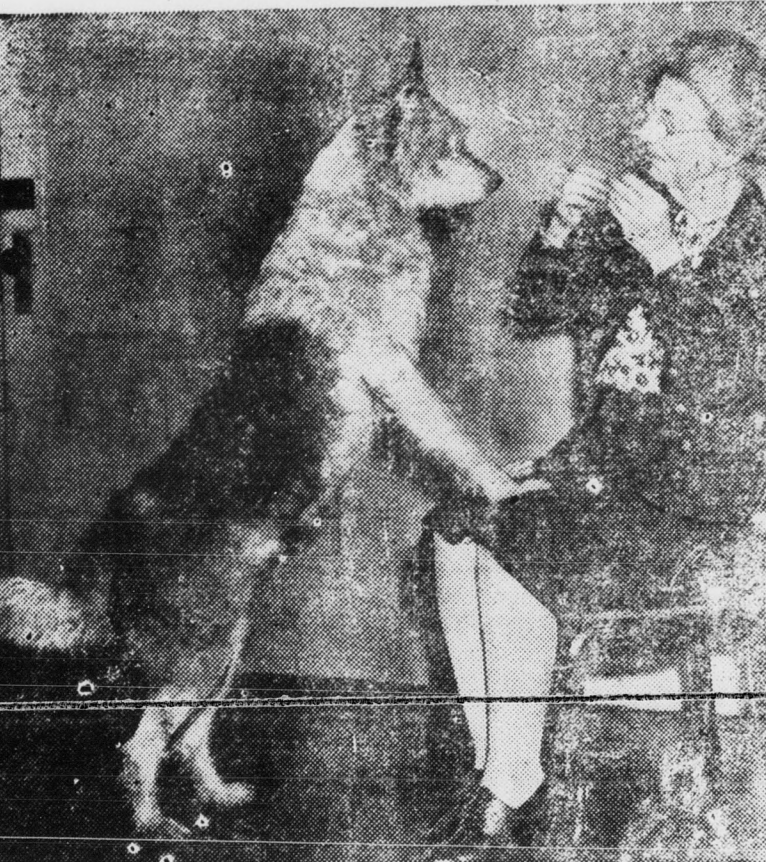
He Gets Purple Heart

After 27-Year Wait

WEST CHESTER, Pa.—Horace Pippin, Negro artist, has been awarded the Purple Heart after waiting 27 years.

Wounded in the Champagne sector in France in 1918, while serving in the infantry, Mr. Pippin was notified that he has been awarded the Purple Heart by the war department.

Husky Dog Becomes 'Teacher's Pet'



Jerry, a Siberian husky, who brought his new mistress \$3,000 "for his care," poses with the new boss, Miss Lillian Griffith, Columbus, Ga., high school teacher of French. Jerry and the five grand were willed to Miss Griffith by her late friend, Mrs. Anna D. McKoy Griggs of Norfolk, Va.

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F. L. Adams

Pamplin, Va.



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THEATRE OF ROMANCE—A comedy of love and life. Monday at 10 P. M.

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Hisburg

Dec. 15. Mr. and Mrs. Dan Callahan, who is in

and stationed at Will-

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Mr. Callahan has returned af-

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Colored Dots

A large crowd attended the

church and rally sponsored by

the following cap-

tainants reported: Mrs. Priscilla Ab-

bott, \$105.00; Mrs. Bell Scruggs,

\$50.00; and Mrs. Ethel Gibson,

\$7.15. The total amount raised

during the day was \$175.00. Mrs.

Mary Willie Abbott reported last

month, \$50.00. The church is pro-

gressively under the pastore-

late of Rev. H. J. Jones, of Lynch-

burg, Va.

An unusually large crowd at-

tended the rally sponsored by the

Mount Zion Church choir of Red

House, Rev. R. Q. Lawing was the

guest speaker. The church choir

rendered special music, under the

direction of J. M. Fisher, of the

Carver High School. The total

amount raised was \$7.00.

Friends of J. J. McDearmon, of

Pamplin are glad to hear that he

is resting more comfortably, in the

Baptist Hospital. We wish for him

a speedy recovery.

Henry Covington had the mis-

fortune of having one cow killed

and another hurt by a kick of hay

falling on them Friday night.

Students are urged to plan

for their country's na-

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Navy Announcement

It was announced today by chief

Hendley, of the Lynchburg Navy

Recruiting Station, that an ad-

vancement of the annual

have for Christmas to men who

re-enlist after thirty days from

date of discharge is now author-

ized. All leaves must expire not

later than January 5, 1946.

Chi Hendley also announced

the travel itinerary for the period

December 24th through January 1

will be cancelled due to the holi-

days. He will resume travel on

his regular itinerary beginning

January 3rd.

He will be in Appomattox, Va.

January 4th from 11:15 to 12:00

noon.

Officials predict a U. S. break

with France.

Virginia undergoes wave of cold

weather.

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